

### THE COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The Columbia Theological Seminary, after many preliminary movements, extending over a period of fifteen years, was really founded on December 15, 1828, being located at first at Lexington, Oglethorpe county, Georgia, but one year later a permanent location was selected at Columbia, South Carolina.

During the course of the eighty-eight years of its history this institution has had more than fifteen hundred students to fill positions in all the States of the South and many foreign lands. It has always had in its faculty the strongest men that the Presbyterian Church in this country could produce. Dr. Thomas Goulding was its first professor, joined in 1831 by Dr. Geo. Howe, who, for fifty-two years, was professor of Biblical literature, a term of service which, perhaps, is unparalleled in the Theological Seminaries of this country. Dr. B. M. Palmer was added to the faculty in 1853 and served this institution until his transfer to New Orleans, where he had so remarkable a career. Dr. James Henley Thornwell became the first professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology, having retired from the presidency of the University of South Carolina to accept this position. Dr. James Woodrow, who, for twenty-five years was a professor of the Seminary, also occupied the position as president of the University of South Caro-

always ranked amongst the very first in the country on account of the scholarship of its faculty, the strength of its courses, and the personnel and morale of its students. One of its chief attractions is the unparalleled theological library which it possesses. No institution in the United States has a library which is its equal in the field of English theology. The library is being cataloged and its riches will soon be available for more general use. The plan of instruction pursued by the professors requires extensive use of this library.

The institution is charmingly located near the heart of the city of Columbia and quite close to its business center, fronted by the Chicora College for Women with two beautiful campuses facing each other. Improvements have been continuously made in the plant until it is now one of the most convenient and complete in the South. The student body has increased three-fold in the last five years and indications are that the attendance next year will reach the high water mark in the history of the institution. The president of the Seminary reports that he fears that it may be necessary to tell some students that there is not sufficient room for their accommodation.

The present faculty of the institution is:

Thornton Whaling, D. D., LL.D., Lit. D., President and Professor of Didactic and Polemic Theology.

Wm. M. McPheeters, D. D., LL.D., Profes-

### THE UNDEMOCRACY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

By Judge John Newton Lyle.

"We got our form of government from God's Holy word," writes W. S. H., in your issue of the fifth of July. That being the case, it must have been copied from the make-up of the seventy that tried Jesus. He claims further that ours is a theocracy and not a democracy. Our Book says it is a spiritual commonwealth, a free or popular government. It is neither, but is a hybrid.

He, further, demands of the brethren, who suggest an amendment, a "Thus saith the Lord" to justify a change. Well, here it is:

"And Jehovah said unto Moses: Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them and bring them unto the tent of meeting that they may stand there with thee." (Numbers 11:16.)

And Moses went out and told the people the words of Jehovah; and he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and set them round about the tent. And Jehovah came down in the cloud and spake unto him and took of the Spirit that was upon him and put it upon the seventy elders; and it came to pass that, when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, but they did so no more." (Numbers 11:24-5.)



Columbia Theological Seminary, Columbia, S. C.

lina. Dr. Joseph R. Wilson, father of the present President of the United States was for a period of years professor here and Dr. John L. Girardeau, perhaps the most eloquent preacher and convincing teacher that the Seminary has ever had in its service and whose life is soon to be issued also gave his best years to this institution. Dr. Charles R. Hemphill, the distinguished president of Kentucky Theological Seminary, was a graduate and also a professor here in this school; and there are many others whose names cannot be mentioned.

The institution has been strengthened in recent years by the addition to its courses of two new professorships, that of English Bible, pastoral theology and sacred rhetoric occupied by Dr. J. O. Reavis, and the chair of Christian ethics and apologetics occupied by the Rev. E. D. Kerr. In addition an instructorship of elocution is added, filled by Professor Geo. S. Fulbright, one of the most successful and inspiring teachers in this subject in the country. A course in sacred music will also be offered to the students under the tuition of a competent instructor next year. The institution has

sor of Old Testament Literature and Exegesis.

Henry Alexander White, Ph.D., D.D., LL.D., Professor of New Testament Literature and Exegesis.

R. C. Reed, D.D., LL.D., Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Church Polity.

James O. Reavis, D.D., LL.D., Professor of English Bible and Homiletics.

Edgar D. Kerr, A.B., B.D., Professor of Christian Ethics and Apologetics.

Geo. S. Fulbright, A.B., Instructor in Elocution.

Wm. T. Riviere, A.B., A.M., Tutor in New Testament Greek.

W. S. Plumer Bryan, D.D., Smyth Lecturer 1916-1917.

Francis L. Patton, D.D., LL.D., Smyth Lecturer 1917-1918.

"If at first you don't succeed, try, try again," but it is not necessary to keep on trying in exactly the same way. Find out where previous plans were faulty, and select a new point of attack.

Thus was the first form of government given the Presbyterian Church by Jehovah when He organized it in the wilderness. Notice, it was composed of men selected from the elders of (elected by) the people who were already officers over them. This is the only form of church government we find clearly defined in Scripture. Whilst Jehovah was the head of the government, and it is properly called a Theocracy, yet, the body of it was composed of officers elected by the people; and that portion of it was a democracy.

Under this supreme court, spiritual Israel flourished. And those who have given study to its history say that from Joshua to Saul, a period of some five centuries, was its "Golden Age," despite the awful national lapses into idolatry and immorality recorded in the book of Judges.

Will this form of government, direct from the Scriptures suit W. S. H. Would he be willing to organize our general assembly after this pattern given by Jehovah?

This pattern had been sadly disfigured by the time Jesus came. The Sanhedrin, the